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(54) Title: MEANS AND METHODS FOR DIAGNOSING AND TREATING AFFECTIVE DISORDERS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to nucleic acid molecules, preferably genomic sequences, encoding an ATP-gated ion channel P2X7R which contain a mutation in the 5'UTR or 3'UTR regions, a mutation in exon 3, 5, 6, 8 or 13 or in introns 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 or 12 or a deletion in exon 13, which allow to diagnose affective disorders. The invention further relates to polypeptides encoded by said nucleic acid molecules vectors and host cells comprising said nucleic acid molecules as well as to methods for producing polypeptides encoded by said nucleic acid molecules. The present invention also provides antibodies specifically directed to polypeptides encoded by said nucleic acid molecules and aptamers specifically binding said nucleic acid molecules. Additionally, primers for selectively amplifying said nucleic acid molecules are provided in the present invention as well as kits, compositions, particularly pharmaceutical and diagnostic compositions comprising said nucleic acid molecules, vectors, polypeptides, aptamers, antibodies and/or primers. Moreover, the present invention relates to methods for diagnosing affective disorders associated with a nonfunctional P2X7R protein, an altered ATP-gating of the P2X7R protein, an over- or underexpression of the P2X7R protein or associated with the presence of any one of the aforementioned nucleic acid molecules or polypeptides encoded thereby. Additionally, the present invention relates to uses and methods for treating affective disorders employing a functional or non-functional ATP-gated ion-channel P2X7R. The present invention also relates to uses of modulators of P2X7R activity for treating affective diseases. Furthermore, the present invention also relates to methods for identifying and characterizing compounds which are capable of specifically interacting with or altering the characteristics of the polypeptides of the present invention as well as to methods for the production of pharmaceutical compositions.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12N15/12 C12N15/11

G01N33/68

C07K16/28

A61K31/40

C12N5/10 A61K38/17

C12N1/21 A61K39/395 C12Q1/68 A61K31/7088

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C12N C12Q C07K A61K G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

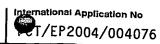
Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, EMBASE, CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No.
X	US 6 214 581 B1 (LYNCH KEVIN J ET AL) 10 April 2001 (2001-04-10) column 3 - column 5	36,37, 42-45
X	WO 99/55901 A (ABBOTT LAB) 4 November 1999 (1999-11-04) cited in the application page 3 page 22	36,37, 42-45
A	NORTH R A ET AL: "Pharmacology of cloned P2X receptors." ANNUAL REVIEW OF PHARMACOLOGY AND TOXICOLOGY. 2000, vol. 40, 2000, pages 563-580, XP002304784 ISSN: 0362-1642 cited in the application page 571 - page 572; tables 1,2	
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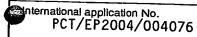
nt family members are listed in annex.
ment published after the international filing date of date and not in conflict with the application but understand the principle or theory underlying the of particular relevance; the claimed invention e considered novel or cannot be considered to
or cannot be considered to in inventive step when the document is taken alone of particular relevance; the claimed invention e considered to involve an inventive step when the it is combined with one or more other such docu—uch combination being obvious to a person skilled in member of the same patent family
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Category •	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Polovent
	passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	SANZ J M ET AL: "TENIDAP ENHANCES P2Z/P2X7 RECEPTOR SIGNALLING IN MACROPHAGES" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY, AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 355, no. 2/3, 1998, pages 235-244, XP001056968 ISSN: 0014-2999 cited in the application the whole document	
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Boy II Observation	
	ns where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Search	ch Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
<u> </u>	(), () and the relationst the rela
1. X Claims Nos.: because they	relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
see FURT	HER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
2. Claims Nos.: because they i	relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such
an extent that	no meaningful international Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:	
because they a	are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III Observation	S where unity of investigation in Land
	s where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This International Search	hing Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
000 -441	
	ional sheet
As a resu	onal food and treview under R. 40.2(e) PCT,
no addict	onal fees are to be refunded.
1. As all required a	additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all
searchable clair	ns. Product and memorial dearth nepolit covers all
2. As all searchabl	le claims could be searched without effort lightfulon on a limit
of any additiona	le claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment Il fee.
3. X As only some of	f the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report se claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos:
	, and the second second
1-12,1/-3	5,40-55 (all partially),36-39,56 (all completely)
No required addi	itional sparch to a ware the deal was to
restricted to the	itional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on Protest	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protect
Remark on Protest	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Although claims 24-27 and 54-56 are directed to a diagnostic method practised on the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

Although claims 30, 34 and 35 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

Invention 1: Claims 1-12 and 17-56 (all partially)

nucleic acid molecule comprising a genomic nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1 with substitution of nucleotide 362, or fragments containing the substitution, nucleotides hybridizing with the mutated sequence and the use of the nucleic acid molecule in diagnosis and treatment.

Inventions 2-6: Claims 1-12 and 17-56 (all partially)

nucleic acid molecule comprising a genomic nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1 with substitution of nucleotide 532, 1100, 1122, 1171, 1702 respectively, fragments containing the substitutions and nucleotides hybridizing with the mutated sequences and their use in diagnosis and treatment of affective diseases.

Inventions 7-13: Claims 1-56 partially

polypeptides according to SEQ 3 or 4 with substitution of amino acid residue 117,150, 186, 191, 270, 568 or 578 respectively, nucleotides or fragments thereof encoding the mutated polypeptide(fragments), nucleotides hybridizing with the mutated nucleotide sequence, antibodies against the mutated polypeptide sequence and the use of the polypeptides in diagnosis and treatment of affective diseases.

Inventions 14 and 15: Claims 1-12 and 17-56 (all partially)

nucleic acid molecule comprising a genomic nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1 with substitution of nucleotide 32548 or 37633 respectively, fragments containing the substitutions and nucleotides hybridizing with the mutated sequences and the use of the nucleic acid molecules in diagnosis and treatment of affective diseases.

Invention 16: Claims 1-56 partially

polypeptides according to SEQ 3 or 4 with a deletion of amino acids 488-494, nucleotides or fragments thereof encoding the mutated polypeptide(fragments), nucleotides hybridizing with the mutated nucleotide sequence, antibodies against the mutated polypeptide sequence and the use of the polypeptides in diagnosis and treatment of affective diseases.

Inventions 17-39: 1-12 and 17-56 (all partially)

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

nucleic acid molecule comprising a genomic nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1 with substitution of nucleotides mentioned in claim 1(e) and 1(f) respectively, fragments containing the substitutions and nucleotides hybridizing with the mutated sequences and the use of the nucleic acid molecules in diagnosis and treatment of affective diseases.

Invention 40: 20-27,42-46 (all partially),54-56 completely

Use of P2X7R or its encoding nucleotides or variants thereof as far as not covered by inventions 1-39 in diagnosis of affective disorders

Invention 41: 20,28-35,40-45,47-53 (all partially),36-39 completely

Use of modulators of P2X7R activity as pharmaceutical against affective disorders as far as not covered by invention 1-40

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